

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A heat-insulating container adapted to receive a heat-shrinkable label, comprising:

an injection-molded container body having

a bottom wall,

a circumferential wall integrally coupled to a periphery of said bottom wall and extending upwardly from said bottom wall to define an inner space and an upper end, said circumferential wall being formed by at least two circumferential wall parts, each having a different diameter, and a circumferential ledge arranged between said wall parts, said wall parts being arranged such that a diameter of said circumferential wall decreases in a direction from said upper end to said bottom wall,

straight, vertical insulating ribs arranged on an outer surface of said circumferential wall and spaced from one another, and

downwardly-facing, vertically oriented subsidiary ribs coupled to said circumferential ledge and each having a downwardly-facing lower edge extending a distance from said circumferential ledge, said subsidiary ribs being arranged such that a portion of each of said subsidiary ribs including said downwardly-facing lower edge is separated from said circumferential wall by a space to thereby form a double-layered reinforcing and insulating annular portion whereby one layer of said double-layered portion is constituted by said subsidiary rib and another layer is constituted by said circumferential wall and said space is between said subsidiary rib and said circumferential wall, each of said subsidiary ribs being arranged between adjacent ones of said vertical ribs and having opposite lateral edges coupled to the adjacent ones of said vertical ribs,

an outer radial edge of said vertical ribs being positioned radially outward from said circumferential wall more than said subsidiary ribs are positioned radially outward from said circumferential wall such that only said outer edges of said vertical ribs form a radially outermost portion of the container between said bottom wall and said upper end of said circumferential wall,

whereby said outer edges of said vertical ribs are adapted to contact an inward facing surface of the label without the interposition of said subsidiary ribs between the inward facing surface of the label and said vertical ribs.

18. (Currently Amended) A heat-insulating container according to claim 17, wherein said body further includes an upper wall part arranged above said at least two circumferential wall parts of said circumferential wall and having a flange formed around an upper open end of said body and an annular ledge arranged between said upper wall part and said circumferential wall and serving as an indication line for indicating a suitable limit of fluid receivable in said body.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A heat-insulating container according to claim 17, wherein said subsidiary ribs comprise a plurality of sets of subsidiary ribs, each set of subsidiary ribs extending in a circumferential direction at a different height along said container body.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A heat-insulating container according to claim 17, wherein said at least two circumferential wall parts of said

circumferential wall are arranged such that a diameter of said circumferential wall decreases in a stepwise manner in the direction from said upper end to said bottom wall to thereby form stepped portions.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A heat-insulating container according to claim 17, wherein said circumferential ledge is positioned at a height of up to 50% to 70% from said bottom wall to said upper end of said circumferential wall.

26. (Previously Presented) A heat-insulating container according to claim 17, wherein said vertical ribs continuously extend along said outer side of said circumferential wall.

27. (Previously Presented) A heat-insulating container according to claim 17, wherein each of said vertical ribs extends along said outer side of said circumferential wall in a straight line from a bottom of said container body to said upper end of said container body.

28. (Previously Presented) A heat-insulating container according to claim 17, wherein one of said subsidiary ribs is arranged between each pair of adjacent vertical ribs.

29. (Previously Presented) A heat-insulating container according to claim 17, wherein one of said subsidiary ribs is arranged only between some of the pairs of adjacent vertical ribs.

30. (Currently Amended) A heat-insulating container according to claim 17, wherein said vertical ribs are generally parallel to one another.

31. (New) A heat-insulating container according to claim 18, wherein said upper wall part has an outer surface contiguous with said outer radial edges of said vertical ribs and adapted to contact a circumferential wall part of the label.

32. (New) A heat-insulating container adapted to receive a heat-shrinkable label, comprising:

an injection-molded container body having

a bottom wall,

a circumferential wall integrally coupled to a periphery of said bottom wall and extending upwardly from said bottom wall to define an inner space and an upper end, said circumferential wall being formed by at least two circumferential wall parts, each having a different diameter, and a circumferential ledge arranged between said wall parts, said wall parts being arranged such that a diameter of said circumferential wall decreases in a direction from said upper end to said bottom wall,

straight, vertical insulating ribs arranged on an outer surface of said circumferential wall and spaced from one another,

downwardly-facing, vertically oriented subsidiary ribs coupled to said circumferential ledge and each having a downwardly-facing lower edge extending a distance from said circumferential ledge, said subsidiary ribs being arranged such that a portion of each of said subsidiary ribs including said downwardly-facing lower edge is separated from said circumferential wall by a space to thereby form a double-layered reinforcing and insulating annular portion whereby one layer of said double-layered portion is constituted by said subsidiary rib and another layer is constituted by said circumferential wall and said space is between said subsidiary rib and said circumferential wall, each of said subsidiary ribs being arranged between adjacent ones of said vertical ribs and having opposite lateral edges coupled to the adjacent ones of said vertical ribs, and

an upper wall part arranged above said at least two circumferential wall parts of said circumferential wall and having a flange formed around an upper open end of said body and an annular ledge arranged between said upper wall part and said circumferential wall and serving as an indication line for indicating a suitable limit of fluid receivable in said body,

an outer radial edge of said vertical ribs being positioned radially outward from said circumferential wall more than said subsidiary ribs are positioned radially outward from said circumferential wall such that only said outer edges of said vertical ribs and said upper wall part form a radially outermost portion of the container except for said flange,

whereby said outer edges of said vertical ribs and said upper wall part are adapted to contact an inward facing surface of the label without the interposition of said subsidiary ribs between the inward facing surface of the label and said vertical ribs.

33. (New) A heat-insulating container according to claim 32, wherein said subsidiary ribs comprise a plurality of sets of subsidiary ribs, each set of subsidiary ribs extending in a circumferential direction at a different height along said container body.

34. (New) A heat-insulating container according to claim 32, wherein said at least two circumferential wall parts of said circumferential wall are arranged such that a diameter of said circumferential wall decreases in a stepwise manner in the direction from said upper end to said bottom wall to thereby form stepped portions.

35. (New) A heat-insulating container according to claim 32, wherein said circumferential ledge is positioned at a height of up to 50% to 70% from said bottom wall to said upper end of said circumferential wall.

36. (New) A heat-insulating container according to claim 32, wherein said vertical ribs continuously extend along said outer side of said circumferential wall.

37. (New) A heat-insulating container according to claim 32, wherein each of said vertical ribs extends along said outer side of said circumferential wall in a straight line from a bottom of said container body to said upper end of said container body.

38. (New) A heat-insulating container according to claim 32, wherein one of said subsidiary ribs is arranged between each pair of adjacent vertical ribs.

39. (New) A heat-insulating container according to claim 32, wherein one of said subsidiary ribs is arranged only between some of the pairs of adjacent vertical ribs.

40. (New) A heat-insulating container according to claim 32, wherein said vertical ribs are generally parallel to one another.